

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 OIC-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 EB-07 /113 W

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R 041045Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9122

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION USNATO

AMCONGEN MUNICH

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4574

DEPT ALSO PASS NACC COLLECTIVE ADDRESSES

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, YO, IN, RO

SUBJECT: COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT: ROMANIAN OBSERVER

BID IN TROUBLE

REF : COLOMBO 2771; NEW DELHI 10483

1. SUMMARY. AS COLOMBO NAM SUMMIT RAPIDLY APPROACHES, INDICATIONS MOUNT THAT ROMANIAN BID FOR OBSERVER STATUS IS IN TROUBLE DUE TO CONTINUED OPPOSITION FROM INDIA AND CUBA. IN FACT, SOME FEELING HERE GOR MAY BE FORTUNATE TO OBTAIN REPEAT OF GUEST STATUS ENJOYED AT LIMA. DEPFONMIN PACOSTE WILL LEAD GOR DELEGATION BUT, BY HIS OWN ADMISSION, IS PES-CONFIDENTIAL

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SIMISTIC OVER OUTCOME FOR ROMANIA. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING RECENT TALKS WITH DEPFONMIN PACOSTE AND DIRECTOR OF MFA USECOND DIRECTORATE (DEVELOPING COUNTRIES) DINU, CHARGE RECEIVED DEFINITE IMPRESSION THAT GOR NO LONGER OPTIMISTIC OVER ITS CHANCES OF ATTENDING AUGUST 15 NAM SUMMIT AS "OBSERVER", AND STILL UNDECIDED AS TO POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES, I.E., REPEAT ATTENDANCE AS "GUEST", ACCORDING TO DINU, WOULD DEPEND UPON CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING OFFER. (COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT YUGOSLAVS HAVE SOUNDED OUT INDIANS ON POSSIBLE "GUESTS" COMPROMISE, BUTHVT THAT GOI SO FAR CONTIFXES TO MAINTAIN THAT EVEN THIS UNACCEPTABLE AND LIMA FORMULA SHOULD NOT AUTOMATICALLY APPLY AT COLOMBO. GOI HAS APPARENTLY BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN HALTING ISSUANCE OF SUCH AN INVITATION (NEW DELHI 10483) SINCE NONE OF THE INTERESTED PARTIES (ROMANIANS, PHILIPPINES) ADMITS TO HAVING RECEIVED IT.) PACOSTE SAID HE INTENDED TO LEAVE FOR COLOMBO PROBABLY LATE THIS WEEK, BUT WAS PESSIMISTIC OVER CHANCES FOR SUCCESS OF GOR DRIVE TO ATTEND CONFERENCE IN OBSERVER STATUS. HE NOTED "IT WOULD NOT BE THE END OF THE WORLD FOR US" IF GOR BID DFILED. FROM ROMANIAN STANDPOINT, PACOSTE SAID, OF FAR GREATER CONSEQUENCE IS NEWLY ATTAINED MEMBERSHIP IN GROUP OF 77.

3. DIRECTOR DINU NARROWED DOWN OPPOSITION TO GOR COLOMBO HOPES TO INDIA AND CUBA. WHEN CHARGE NOTED THAT SOVIETS HERE ARE OPENLY PREDICTING ROMANIAN FAILURE AT SRI LANKA, HE WRYLY OBSERVED "THEY OUGHT TO KNOW." (COMMENT: SEVERAL WEEKS AGO DINU HAD TOLD SWEDISH CHARGE THAT OPPOSITION TOTALED SIX - INDIA, CUBA, IRAQ, ONE UNKNOWN PLUS NEPAL AND AFGHANISTAN. LATTER TWO COUNTRIES HAVE ALSO BEEN MENTIONED BY SOVIETS AS OPPOSED TO ROMANCPN ASPIRATIONS AND THEIR GEOGRAPHIC PROXIMITY TO THE USSR HAS NOT EXCAPED NOTICE HERE.) DINU TOLD CHARGE THAT ROMANIA WOULD WITHDRAW ITS CANDIDACY AS OBSERVER IF IT APPEARED THIS WAS CAUSING SERIOUS DIVISION WITHIN NAM.

4. INDICATIONS ARE, HOWEVER, THAT GOR'S BID HAS ALREADY CREATED CERTAIN AMOUNT OF ILL-WILL. DINU RECENTLY TOLD UK AMBASSADOR THAT GOR READY TO "EXPOSE" REALITIES OF INDIAN-SOVIET REALTIONSHIP, IF FORCED TO DO SO. OF
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LATE INDIAN OPPOSITION, AT LEAST AS PROCLAIMED BY INDIAN DCM HERE (AMB IS DIPLOMATICALLY STAYING OFF THE FIRING LINE), HAS VISIBLY STRENGTHENED. WHETHER OR NOT AT BEHEST OF SOVIETS (WHICH INDIANS VEHEMENTLY DENY), IT DOES SERVE THEIR PURPOSE. WHEREAS IN PAST INDIANS SAID THEY WERE WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH MAJORITY, NOW THEIR POSITION IS BASED ON "UNCHANGEABLE PRINCIPLE" THAT NAM SHOULD NOT DILUTE CRITERIA.

5. DEPFORMIN PACOSTE IS NOW IN BELGRADE TO SOOTHE SOME OF THE STRAINS OF THE YUGOSLAV-ROMANIAN RELATIONSHIP WHICH HAVE DEVELOPED DUE TO ROMANIAN BELIEF THAT YUGOSLAVS, AS WELL AS SOME OTHER NON-ALIGNED FRIENDS, HAVE NOT SUFFICIENTLY SUPPORTED THEIR BID. YUGOSLAV CHARGE HERE HAS ADMITTED THAT SOME HARSH WORDS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN EXCHANGED ON THIS SUBJECT. IF SO, TITO PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED IN SCINTEIA, AUGUST 3, MAY HELP, EVEN IF IT COMES TOO LATE IN THE GAME. YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT IS SAID TO HAVE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT NAM SHOULD ADOPT "MALLEABLE POLICY" TOWARD THOSE COUNTRIES WHO WISH TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH MOVEMENT.

6. EVEN CEAUSESCU NO LONGER SOUNDS LIKE A MAN CAMPAIGNING FOR NAM STATUS. IN A RECENT INTERVIEW WITH THE WEST GERMAN PAPER "FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU" (SCINTEIA, JULY 27, 1976) HE ACTUALLY BELITTLES NAM IMPORTANCE AND FUTURE, REMARKING "CERTAINLY, I DON'T WISH TO BE WRONGLY UNDERSTOOD BY THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES, BUT ONCE MILITARY BLOCS DISAPPEAR, WITH THE ORGANIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ON NEW PRINCIPLES, THIS NOTION ITSELF (NON-ALIGNMENT) WILL LOSE MUCH OF ITS MEANING." IN ADDITION LAST JOINT COMMUNIQUE SIGNED WITH NAM MEMBER (BENIN, JULY 24, 1976) FAILED EVEN TO MENTION ROMANIAN BID, ALTHOUGH IT DID PRAISE NAM.

7. COMMENT: GOR WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE ITS CASE FOR ASSOCIATION WITH NAM, BUT EFFORT NOW SEEMS SOMEWHAT MORE HALF-HEARTED THAN BEFORE. CEAUSESCU'S COMMENTS TO WEST GERMAN PRESS INDICATE THAT A REATIONALIZATION IN CASE OF FAILURE IS ALREADY IN MAKING. NAM REBUFF TO GOR WILL BE MAJOR DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT IS UNLIKELY TO CHANGE ROMANIAN SUPPORT OF NIEO AND THIRD WORLD OBJECTIVES
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AND POLICIES WHICH REMAIN BASED MORE ON ECONOMIC NEED TO EXTEND AND DIVERSIFY ITS RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY AND EXPORT ROMANIAN GOODS THAN ON PHILOSOPHICAL CONCETIONS.
VIETS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING OBSERVERS, NONALIGNED NATIONS MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BUCHAR04574
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760300-0359
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760889/aaaadaaq.tel
Line Count: 160
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COLOMBO 2771, 76 NEW DELHI 10483
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <04 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT: ROMANIAN OBSERVER BID IN TROUBLE
TAGS: PFOR, YO, IN, RO, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006